

INTERVIEW SUMMARY:

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation Examiner Melody Burch and Supervisor Robert Siconolfi providing an Examiner Interview on 27 October 2011 with Applicant's representative Jeff Williams.

Courtesy copies of proposed amendments were sent to Examiner Burch for review and discussion during the interview. The amendments shown in this response are not the proposed amendments sent to Examiner Burch. The following amendments are in accordance to the suggestions of Mr. Siconolfi and Examiner Burch during the Examiner Interview.

In the Examiner Interview, the claims were discussed in relation to the cited references found in the present Office Action; specifically, U.S. Patent No. 5,788,372 (Jones) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,535,861 (Young), JP-469423 (JP'423), and U.S. Patent No. 2,774,553 (Jensen).

During the interview, Mr. Siconolfi suggested adding the limitation of the bypass passages from Claim 17 into independent Claim 11 to overcome the cited rejections. Mr. Siconolfi claimed that the prior art uses a single passage; thus rendering it obvious to a second passage. However Mr. Siconolfi conceded the use of more than 2 passages, as disclosed in the claimed invention, was not obvious in view of the cited art. Examiner Burch further conceded and suggested adding the limitation of Claim 17 also to independent Claim 20 to overcome the cited rejections.

Agreement was reached that amending independent Claims 11 and 20 to include the limitations of Claim 17 would overcome the rejections found in the present Office Action.

Examiner Burch reserved the right to conduct a new search and stated that she will issue another non-final office action if additional art is found.